

Comments from Reviewers

Referee/Reviewer #1:

Here's a great example of a manuscript that virtually requires online supplementation. Tied to the text should be access to one or more examples of digital stories from this author. This is an okay manuscript as is (with revisions as indicated), but it can really come to life if readers have access to the particular digital story described in the article as well as others if possible. Before communicating with the author about revisions, the MT editorial staff should discuss if this is possible as well as how to do it so that appropriate directives can be made to the author.

Comments, criticisms, suggestions for Author:

This is an interesting narrative that describes your journey into an alternative project that apparently helped students address your goals for problem solving in the classroom. From the significant starting point you've established with this first draft, there is potential for further consideration for publication.

Reviewer comments that should be addressed in revising this draft include a suggestion for including a more direct introductory paragraph to inform readers of the mathematical focus of the digital stories (see Reviewer #1).

Also, as described by Reviewer #2, the manuscript can be improved by including a complete statement of the actual problem as posed by the three swimmers, together with more description for how that problem was explored in class and eventual solutions that emerged. Reviewer #2 also suggested that other problems and solutions be included. Addressing these suggestions will help make your ideas more concrete for readers and provoke reader ideas for use of digital projects in their own settings.

Referee/Reviewer #2:

Include a detailed rationale for your recommendation. Portions of your review may be sent to the author(s) in support of the Panel's decision.:

Most important aspects are 1, 2, 5, 6, and 9.

The article is well written. It is based on the author's own experience in the classroom with a first person narrative. I believe many readers will relate to the author's experience in moving from traditional teaching to using technology for this project.

I believe that the editorial staff can help the author polish the article, but I am willing to act as a consultant. My one major suggestion would be to let the reader know early on that the specific context of the digital story telling is trigonometry. In fact, the addition of an opening paragraph giving an overview of the article might help orient the reader in this regard.

Referee/Reviewer #3:

Include a detailed rationale for your recommendation. Portions of your review may be sent to the author(s) in support of the Panel's decision.:

The idea of having students create digital presentations of problems involving some mathematics that can be shared with a class is a good way to engage students. One example of such a presentation given by a group of three students was mentioned, but the problem and its solution (or solutions arrived at through classroom discussions) were not explained. The article could be improved by providing several such examples, clearly stating the problems that are introduced, and outlining the solutions arrived at through subsequent class discussions. The article is very well written.